

# Quinzani takes his game to the Max

Duke senior has had quite a run as a Blue Devil

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DUXBURY – Max Quinzani had a bit of a homecoming last week. The Duke University senior and his Blue Devils lacrosse team came to Harvard Stadium to take on the Crimson, bringing Quinzani back to the region where he shined as the best player in the state during his senior high school season of 2006. He scored 93 goals and had 73 assists, leading the Dragons to their third straight state championship.

Against Harvard last Friday night, Quinzani and the Blue Devils beat the Crimson, 14-5, and Quinzani scored five goals, much to the delight of the contingent of Duke and Duxbury lacrosse supporters.

"It was awesome," Quinzani said. "It's the closest I've ever been to home. It was good to have friends in the stands and my family members in the stands. I think it was one of our better games of the year. It was a very exciting atmosphere to play in."

Quinzani leads Duke with 44 goals in 12 games this year. He led the team in both 2009 and 2008 in goals scored, netting 46 and 61, respectively. But before Quinzani leaves Duke, he wants to go out as a champion. As a freshman, Quinzani played on the Blue Devils team

that lost by one goal in the NCAA Championship. The team has made it to the Final Four in all three years Quinzani has played on the team.

"I want to go out on the right foot," Quinzani said. "I'm trying to leave the best mark on the program that I've had."

Quinzani's road to Duke started in the Duxbury Youth Lacrosse program. From there, he quickly emerged as one of the top attack players in the state and had a high school career that goes down as one of the best at Duxbury High School.

"I hope the kids (at Duxbury High) are having as much fun as I did when I was at the school," he said. "For me, I was playing a sport I loved in a town that loved it. My dad has always been big in the youth program. (Lacrosse) is kind of a culture that's just taken hold in Duxbury."

Quinzani credited the coaching staff at Duxbury High School, as well as the coaches at the youth level, with helping develop players into Division I

college prospects.

"They have a very good youth program, and kids are going right into high school and not private schools," he said. "I think with my class, he (Duxbury Head Coach Chris Sweet) taught us a very applicable part of the game and what's useful at the next level. I think the green and black at Duxbury is garnering recognition, and winning state championships, Division 1 coaches understand what Duxbury is and are not afraid to take Duxbury kids."

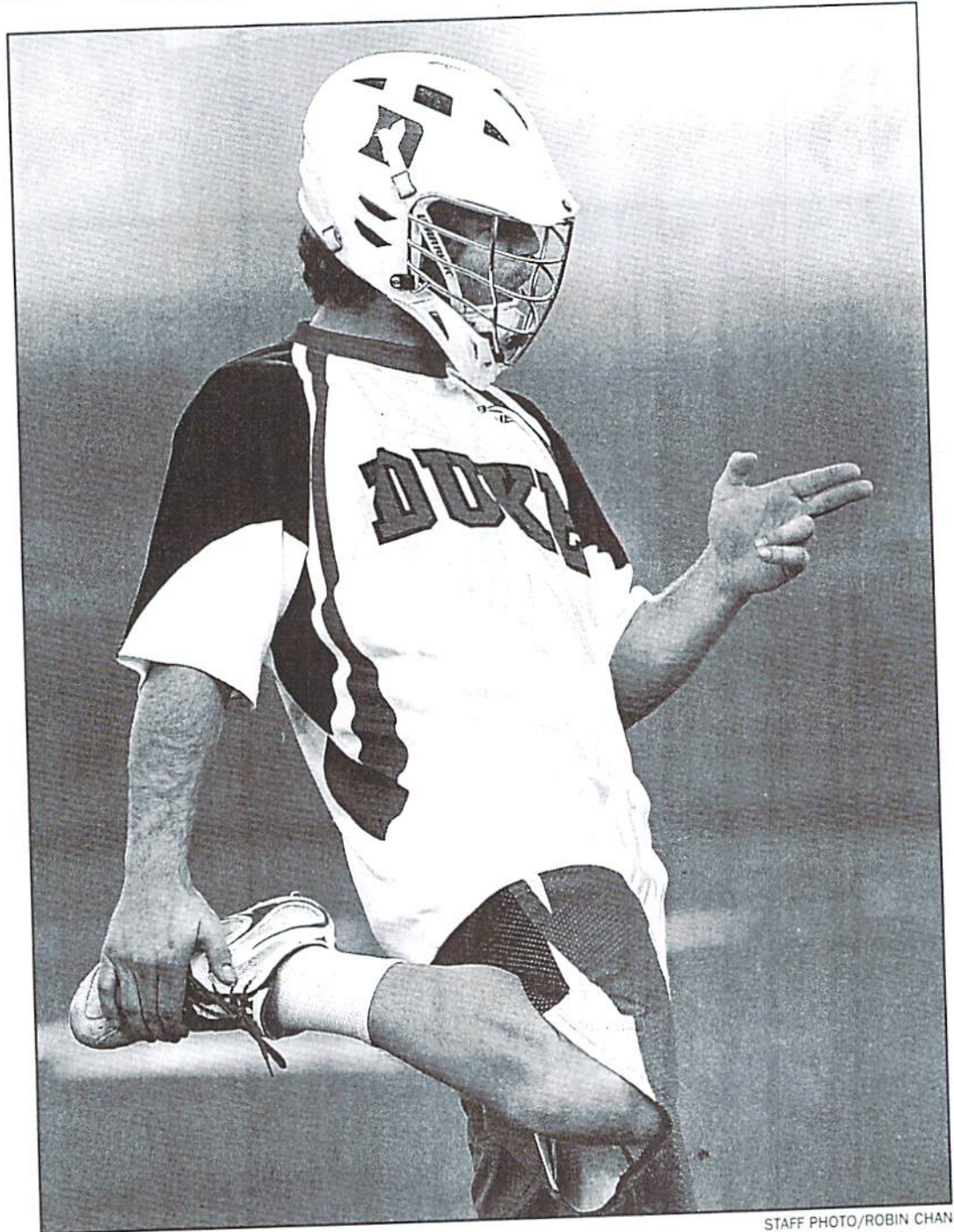
If Quinzani wants to go out as a national champion, he doesn't have to look far for inspiration as the men's basketball team returned to campus as National Champions.

"They got back and there wasn't one parking spot in Durham. It's been a crazy couple days here," Quinzani said. "We can learn a lot from that team. They had a couple losses early in the season and went under the radar. Hopefully we can do what they did. It's good to be at Duke right now."

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Max Quinzani

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STAFF PHOTO/ROBIN CHAN

Max Quinzani has enjoyed tremendous success at Duke University. Last Friday, he made his last trip to Massachusetts as a Duke lacrosse player as the Blue Devils took on Harvard.